



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

out, bring to the end, ausführen' is the underlying meaning, which is also in OHG. *sitōn* 'machinari, machen, thun, ausführen, in stand setzen.'—With G. *supn* 'magen' compare OE. *sēod* 'pouch, purse,' *newe-sēopa* 'pit of stomach.'—G. *plahsjan* 'erschrecken' is probably related to Ch. Sl. *tlūkq*, *tlěšti* 'klopfen,' Lith. *tulkdōzius* 'mörserkeule,' OPrus. *tlākut* 'dreschen,' base *tlēq-* 'move rapidly: startle: beat.'—G. *ur-rīsan* 'aufstehen' no doubt goes back to the root *rei-* in Skt. *riṇāti* 'lässt laufen, lässt fließen,' Gk. *ōpivō* 'stir, raise; move, hasten.' The primary meaning of Germ. *rīsan* was not 'rise' nor 'fall' nor 'move up and down,' but 'move hastily, rush.' From this came the various other meanings, as in Gk. *ōpōvō* 'stürme los, erhebe mich,' Lat. *ruō* 'rush, hasten, rush down, fall, sink;' E. *start*, NHG. *stürzen*, etc. With *rīsan* 'rise,' therefore, we may compare OE. *ge-ris* 'fury,' *rīsan* 'seize,' *rās* 'running, rush, impetus, attack,' *rāsas* 'rush, attack.' The root *rei-* appears also in OE. *riþ*, *riþig* 'stream,' ON. *riða* 'bestreichen, beschmieren.' Compare Skt. *rīti* 'strom, lauf, strich.'—G. *urrugks* 'angeschlossen' is perhaps from pre-Germ. **us-rngo-*, which may be compared with Skt. *argala* 'riegel,' OE. *recud* 'house,' etc. In that case it would be remotely connected with G. *rōhsns* (v. supra).

For other words unexplained or insufficiently explained, I refer to various articles of mine in the MOD. LANG. NOTES; *Am. Jour. Phil.*; *Jour. Germ. Phil.*

FRANCIS A. WOOD.

Cornell College.

FRENCH LANGUAGE.

Henri Estienne et son Œuvre Française: Étude d'Histoire Littéraire et de Philologie, par LOUIS CLÉMENT. Paris: Alphonse Picard et Fils, éditeurs, 82 Rue Bonaparte, 1898. 8vo, x and 539 pp.

OF all the celebrated French printers in the sixteenth century Henri Estienne alone has also a considerable reputation as a student of the French language and literature, and M. Clément's book was therefore well worth the writing even if the subject should have fallen into the hands of a less able scholar. We have presented to us here quite a full account

of all the circumstances in the author's life which have a bearing upon this portion of his scholarly work, as well as an analysis of the writings in question, together with an estimate of their value to us at the present time.

People at this time were beginning to inquire into the history of the French language, and his first work in this field was the *Conformité du Langage François avec le Grec*, published at Geneva in 1565. Owing to insufficient knowledge and the lack of a rigid critical method, the results reached in this treatise have, of course, not been able to stand the test of time.

More successful was *La Précellence du Langage François*, as this really great work is likely to remain the standard of its kind through all time. In it he endeavors to present the claims of French as a language against all other languages, but more especially Latin and Italian, and he has indeed succeeded in marshalling the chief arguments which can be advanced in favor of his mother-tongue. He seems, in fact, to have had a species of prophetic vision which enabled him to foresee in a measure the future greatness of French as the polite language of the whole civilized world.

The book itself appeared at Paris in 1479 with Mamert Patisson as publisher, and received the august protection of King Henry III. While endeavoring to raise the French language in the general estimation by calling attention to its many excellencies, he at the same time was desirous of defending it against the encroachments of both the Latinists and the Italian sympathizers. In opposing these two powerful schools of innovators it was his purpose to purify and elevate his language as much as possible; for though the additions from foreign sources were most valuable, they must be thoroughly assimilated and kept within proper bounds before the language could reach the highest phase of its development.

The members of the *Pléiade*, too, were endeavoring in their way to elevate the language, but while they were merely considering it as a vehicle of literary expression, Henri Estienne's view was much broader. He wished to have his native tongue serve both the poet and the

business man, the historian and the orator, but above all it must be the language of the whole people.

To those of his critics who reproached him with the taunt that he knew Greek better than French, he proudly replied that French was his mother-tongue and came natural to him. His frequent and long-continued sojourns in foreign countries only served to increase his grasp of his own language by enabling him to gain a proper perspective, and it is much to be regretted that the plan of a more pretentious work floating in his mind during many years, which was to be the synthesis of his linguistic researches and a definite plea in favor of the French language, never came to fruition.

Henri Estienne's chief successors in this field were Claude Fauchet and Estienne Pasquier, both of whom were able to improve on his method, but could not even distantly approach him in the matter of originality.

Our author was also a French grammarian of some note, for scattered through his various works are many remarks bearing on this subject. His great merit here is the prominence into which he brought the study of syntax, the essential point of his method being a comparison with Greek and Latin grammar, while it is the spoken language rather than its literary form which is made the basis of his own work on the French side. His etymological theories have by this time become entirely antiquated, but his observations on the meaning and pronunciation of words still have their value. He had also a good deal to say upon the question which has recently been so much agitating the public mind in France; namely, that of orthography. In general he would advocate an adherence to the etymological principle, although fully recognizing the difference between superfluous letters and those actually pronounced.

To sum up, in spite of the imperfections of our author's linguistic methods, his prodigious knowledge, his insatiable curiosity, and the powerful comprehension of his judicial faculty, enabled him to organize the complex facts which he was able to collect, and thus he caught more than one glimpse of the most delicate as well as most fundamental laws of

the French language. His work as a whole presents, therefore, a most precious document, showing the state of the language in his day, the second half of the sixteenth century.

GEORGE C. KEIDEL.

Johns Hopkins University.

HENRIK IBSEN.

Henrik Ibsen, in zwei Bänden, von ROMAN WOERNER, Erster Band, 1828-1873. München, 1900, 404 pp.

ONE of the most encouraging symptoms of modern German literary scholarship has been the growing interest in very recent phenomena. It was natural that at first the past was studied with minute care, to the exclusion of a similarly keen interest in works of more recent origin. For a time it looked as if the antiquarian spirit which lurks in every form of historical curiosity, were going to continue. This, we take it, would have been most unfortunate and would have given color to the accusation leveled at historical scholarship in general, as tending to estrange us from our own times. Recent publications like Baechthold's biography of Gottfried Keller, Frey's life of C. F. Meier, and especially R. M. Meyer's treatise on German Literature in the nineteenth century, show that modern scholars by no means disdain to make a scientific study of the literary monuments of our own times. Particularly R. M. Meyer's history should be hailed with satisfaction as the performance of a person who is well acquainted with all the important literature of the past, especially of his own nation, and at the same time full of the warmest sympathy for the literary problems and literary attempts of to-day. Literary science will remain green and vigorous as long as such a spirit of hospitality to all things modern prevails. What is more, literary criticism, when influenced by this combination of large historical knowledge and spontaneous interest in the present, must gain in soundness and fairness, and lose much of the quality of erratic subjectivity which unfortunately often mars it.

Woerner's treatise on Ibsen before us, no less than the books mentioned above, eminently is the expression of a mind well trained in the work of our own generation. The author